



The California Master Plan for Education

Master Plan “Cheat Sheet”

The Master Plan for Education seeks to integrate education policy from pre-K – postsecondary education. The following “cheat sheet” summarizes key Master Plan policy recommendations.

Early Education

- From infancy through preschool, health and social service screenings will identify children’s needs before they become barriers to learning. (*Recommendations 1, 2*)
- Preschool will be available to all children whose families desire it. (*Recommendation 3*)

K-12 Education

- Coursework offered to all students at every level of every K-12 school will prepare students for the next level and ultimately for the workplace or college by the time they graduate. (*Recommendation 11*)
- All children will attend kindergarten for a full school day. (*Recommendation 4*)
- Computers and the Internet will be incorporated into every student’s learning experience. (*Recommendation 13*)
- All students will begin learning a second language as soon as they enter kindergarten and will master it by graduation from high school. (*Recommendation 11.3*)
- An effective, appropriate assessment system will identify learning barriers as they arise for students and provide learning support, such as tutors, to address these needs. (*Recommendation 20*)
- Parents will receive useful information about their children’s education, as well as their schools and districts, and be given more opportunities to be involved. (*Recommendation 5*)

Career Technical Education

- Age-appropriate career curriculum and guidance for all students will prepare them to transition successfully from school to employment. (*Recommendation 24*)

Adult Education

- Adult education will result in the necessary skill sets to advance one’s education, to enter the workforce, and to attain self-sufficiency. (*Recommendation 37*)

Postsecondary Education

- For students who choose college, the difficulty of transferring between the state’s college and university systems will be eliminated. (*Recommendations 23.2, 23.3*)
- Financing for postsecondary education will minimize the effects of the economy’s boom and bust cycles. (*Recommendations 49, 50*)

Teacher Quality/Professional Development

- All teachers will be fully credentialed before being assigned independent responsibility for a classroom. (*Recommendation 6*)
- Every student will be taught by a qualified teacher who will be given continued opportunities to make career advances while staying in the classroom. (*Recommendations 6.7, 7*)

School Finance, Governance, and Structure

- Education finance will be simplified and adjusted based on what it costs to provide every student a high-quality education, and special financing will be directed to low-performing and hard-to-staff schools (“adequacy-based” finance). (*Recommendations 44, 45*)
- Every school and college site will be safe and well-maintained. (*Recommendation 19*)
- Every school site and school district office will have quality administrators who focus on student needs. (*Recommendation 16*)
- Individual communities will be able to vote to raise money for education and to gain control over local education decisions. (*Recommendation 46*)
- The governor will be held accountable for K-12 education and the coordination of education as a coherent system, from preschool through graduate school, including management of the Department of Education. This change will eliminate the split in responsibility for education policy and finances that has resulted in a lack of accountability. (*Recommendation 26*)
- The Superintendent of Public Instruction will become a stronger voice of the people by serving as an objective spokesperson who monitors student achievement and institutional performance. (*Recommendation 27*)
- An objective data agency will collect comprehensive data about individual parts of the education system as well as the system as a whole to inform educational, policy and fiscal decisions. (*Recommendation 39*)
- Short- and long-term facilities planning and financing will ensure that modern school facilities are available when and where they are needed. (*Recommendation 48*)